

*Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California*

Resolution No.: 26-159

A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County)
Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) to:)

- a. Adopt a resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2026-27 (FY27))
cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase of 2.5% to assessments)
of Zones 2B, 2Y and 2Z for the Castroville Seawater Intrusion)
Project (CSIP) and the Salinas Valley Reclamation Project)
(SVRP); and)
- b. Adopt a resolution approving the FY27 Zone 2B Water)
Delivery Charge of \$100.24 per acre-foot of water delivered; and)
- c. Adopt a resolution approving the FY27 Zone 2B Water Service)
Charge of \$113.57 per acre-foot of water delivered for the Salinas)
River Diversion Facility (SRDF).)

WHEREAS, on October 6, 1992, the Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (“Board”) enacted Ordinance Nos. 3635 and 3636 which established Benefit Zones 2B, 2Y, and 2Z for the projects now known as the CSIP and the SVRP;

WHEREAS, Ordinance Nos. 3635 and 3636 stipulate that the assessment rates be increased annually as a cost-of-living adjustment (“COLA”) based on the annual change in the Consumer Price Index (“CPI”) for the San Francisco Bay Area, measured from February to February of the following year;

WHEREAS, on November 8, 1994, the Board enacted Ordinance No. 3789, establishing the Water Delivery Charge to be levied in Zone 2B to fund the operations and maintenance of the CSIP and SRDF, with the charge to be adjusted annually according to the financial needs of CSIP and SRDF operations;

WHEREAS, the Board adopted Resolution 10-188 on January 29, 2008, establishing a Water Service Charge for the operations and maintenance of the SRDF, with the charge subject to annual COLAs by CPI percents for the first five years and thereafter based on an evaluation by the MCWRA;

WHEREAS, the FY27 assessments for Zones 2Y, 2Z, and 2B will increase by the San Francisco–Oakland–San Jose Urban Consumer Price Index (“CPI”)/COLA of 2.5 percent;

WHEREAS, the FY27 Water Delivery Charge will be \$100.24 per acre-foot of water delivered, to fund increased operations and maintenance, including increased staffing costs for CSIP and SVRP operations;

WHEREAS, the FY27 Water Service Charge will be \$113.57 per acre-foot of water delivered, to fund increased operations, maintenance, and repairs at the SRDF;

WHEREAS, any and all adjustments to the Water Delivery Charge & Water Service charge reflect no more than the actual and reasonable cost of the service or benefit received by the payor and burdened on MCWRA. Any discount applicable to these surcharges have a de minimus impact on the MCWRA budget and implementation of that discount does not result in increased fees or costs for other patrons; and

WHEREAS, by definition, the water delivery charge & service charge are not a ‘tax’ and are exempt from voter approval pursuant to Article XIII C section 1(e)(1)-(3) and (5) of the California Constitution (Prop. 26; charges imposed for specific benefit conferred/privilege/service or product, reasonable regulatory costs provided or granted to the payor, and/or fines and/or penalties).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

Section 1. Increase of Assessments in Zones 2Y and 2Z. Pursuant to Monterey County Water Resources Agency (“MCWRA”) Ordinance Nos. 3635 and 3636, assessments for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 are hereby increased on all property in the categories described below and located in Zones 2Y and 2Z of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency.

ZONE 2Y BENEFIT ASSESSMENTS				
Fiscal Year	2025-2026		2026-2027	
Factor	Parcel Count	Charge Per Acre	Parcel Count	Charge Per Acre
A	52,370	\$ 4.20	52,361	\$ 4.31
B	4,641	\$ 36.79	4,630	\$ 37.71
C	3,013	\$ 0.45	3,005	\$ 0.46
D	266	\$ 0.00	265	\$ 0.00
H	1,111	\$ 1.82	1,108	\$ 1.87
Total:	61,366		61,369	

A = Irrigated Agricultural (North Valley), Residential (1-4 units)
 B = Industrial, Apartments (over 4 units), Commercial, Institutional
 C = Dry Farm, Grazing, Vacant
 D = River Channels and Lands Subject to Frequent Flooding
 H = Irrigated Agricultural (South Valley)

ZONE 2Z BENEFIT ASSESSMENTS				
Fiscal Year	2025-2026		2026-2027	
Factor	Parcel Count	Charge Per Acre	Parcel Count	Charge Per Acre
A	52,369	\$ 12.81	52,369	\$ 13.13
B	4,639	\$ 111.57	4,628	\$ 114.35
C	3,015	\$ 1.38	3,007	\$ 1.41
D	266	\$ 0.00	265	\$ 0.00
H	1,111	\$ 5.73	1,108	\$ 5.87
Total:	61,400		61,377	

A = Irrigated Agricultural (North Valley), Residential (1-4 units)
 B = Industrial, Apartments (over 4 units), Commercial, Institutional
 C = Dry Farm, Grazing, Vacant
 D = River Channels and Lands Subject to Frequent Flooding
 H = Irrigated Agricultural (South Valley)

Section 2. Increase of Assessments Zone 2B. Pursuant to MCWRA Ordinance Nos. 3635 and 3636, Resolution 00-172 Clarifying Implementation of Ordinances 3635, 3636, and 3789, and Resolution 10-188, assessments and Water Delivery and Service Charges for Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 are hereby increased on all property in the categories described below and located in Zone 2B of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency.

ZONE 2B BENEFIT ASSESSMENTS				
Fiscal Year	2025-2026		2026-2027	
Factor	Parcel Count	Charge Per Acre	Parcel Count	Charge Per Acre
A	194	\$ 365.04	191	\$ 374.17
B	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
C	0	\$ -	36	\$ -
D	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
H	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
Total:	194		227	

A = Net Irrigated Agricultural (vicinity of Castroville)
 B = Industrial, Apartments (over 4 units), Commercial, Institutional
 C = Dry Farm, Grazing, Vacant
 D = River Channels and Lands Subject to Frequent Flooding
 H = Irrigated Agricultural (South Valley)

WATER DELIVERY & SERVICE CHARGES		
Fiscal Year	2025-2026	2026-2027
Water Delivery Charge	\$85.24	\$100.24
Water Service Charge	\$88.57	\$113.57
Total:	\$173.81	\$213.81

Section 3. North-south dividing line. The dividing line between north Salinas Valley and south Salinas Valley, for the purpose of determining assessments for irrigated agricultural uses, generally follows the centerlines of Gloria Road, U.S. Highway 101, and Gonzales River Road, between the eastern and western boundaries of Zone 2A, and is more particularly described in Resolution No. 92-364, adopted by the Board of Supervisors on July 21, 1992. A map of the dividing line is on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors.

Section 4. Exclusions. The assessments shall not apply to any property exempt by law from the payment of local assessments.

Section 5. Parcel list. On or before August 1, 2026, the General Manager of the Agency shall furnish in writing to the County Auditor a description of each parcel of land within Zones 2Y, 2Z, and 2B upon which an assessment is to be levied and collected under this resolution for FY27 together with the amount of the assessment fixed on each parcel of land.

Section 6. Collection of assessments. All County of Monterey officers charged with the duty of collecting taxes shall collect MCWRA assessments and fees with the regular tax payments to the County. The assessments shall be collected in the same form and manner as county taxes are collected and shall be paid to the MCWRA.

Section 7. Lien on property. The benefit assessments fixed herein shall be a lien on all property against which the assessments are imposed. Liens for the assessments shall be of the same force and effect as other liens for taxes, and their collection may be enforced by the same means as provided for the enforcement of liens for state and County taxes.

Section 8. Use of proceeds. The assessments collected pursuant to this resolution shall be used exclusively to pay the costs of the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project and the Salinas Valley Reclamation Project, including, but not limited to, the costs of planning, design, property acquisition, construction, operation and maintenance, and debt service.

Section 9. Certified copies. The Secretary of the MCWRA shall deliver certified copies of this resolution to the Board of Supervisors of Monterey County and to the Auditor of Monterey County.

Section 10. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this resolution is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution. The Board hereby declares that it would have passed this resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, and phrase thereof,

irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 19th day of May 2026, by roll call vote:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Church, Lopez, Root Askew and Daniels

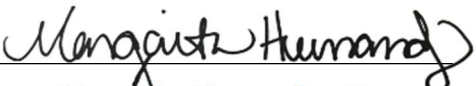
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 82 for the meeting on May 19, 2026.

Dated: May 26, 2026
File ID: WRAG 26-140
Agenda Item No.: 5

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California


Margarita Hernandez, Deputy